

**Minutes of the June 20, 2008
Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee Meeting
SD Department of Social Services, Medical Services Division**

Members present

Verdayne Brandenburg, M.D.; Dana Darger, R.Ph.; William Ladwig, R.Ph.; Dennis Hedge, PharmD.; James Engelbrecht, M.D.

Members absent

Willis Sutliff, M.D.; Rick Holm, M.D.; Galen Goeden, R.Ph.

DSS staff present

Mike Jockheck, R.Ph.; Larry Iversen

HID staff present

Candace Rieth, Pharm.D.

Administrative Business

The P&T meeting was called to order by chair, Dana Darger, at approximately 1pm. The minutes of the February 29, 2008 meeting were presented. Dr. Brandenburg made a motion to approve as written, with a second by Mr. Ladwig. The motion was approved unanimously.

Prior Authorization Statistics

Ms. Rieth presented an overview of the prior authorization (PA) activity for February and March, 2008. There were a total of 2,109 PA's processed in the month of February, with 99.15% of those requests responded to in less than 8 hours. There were a total of 2,124 PA's processed in the month of March, with 97.79% of those requests responded to in less than 8 hours. In February, there were 1948 (92%) requests received electronically and 161 (8%) received by fax. In March, there were 1942 (91%) requests received electronically and 182 (9%) received by fax. Overall, there was a 12.24% approval rating for the month of February and a 15.12% approval rating for the month of March. In response to a request from the committee, Ms. Rieth presented the number of approvals and denials, by form type, for the faxed (manual) PA requests.

Analysis of the Top 15 Therapeutic Classes

Ms. Rieth reviewed the Top 15 Therapeutic Classes by total cost of claims from 10/01/2007 – 12/31/2007. The top five classes were antipsychotics, anticonvulsants, ADHD agents, antidepressants, and beta-adrenergic agonists.

Committee members requested additional information on the antipsychotics, anticonvulsants, cephalosporins, and antidepressants. Ms. Rieth presented the analysis of these classes including cost, number of prescriptions, age of patients, type of medication, and administration method. Committee members would like to review cost per prescription of these four classes. The committee asked for percentage spends of antipsychotics, anticonvulsants, and antidepressants in other State Medicaid programs. This information will be presented at the next P&T meeting.

Ms. Rieth presented information regarding the Wyoming Medicaid antidepressant step therapy initiative. Committee members are interested in a step therapy approach for antidepressants and would like to gather more information from practitioners in Wyoming as well as Wyoming State Medicaid personnel. This topic will be discussed at future meetings.

Singulair Review

In response to a previous request from the committee, Ms. Rieth presented information regarding diagnoses codes submitted on patients utilizing Singulair. Committee members requested further analysis of the 1,442 patients that had none of the diagnoses codes related to asthma, allergic rhinitis, exercise induced bronchospasm, laryngotracheobronchitis, or reactive airway disease. This information will be presented at the next P&T meeting.

Evamist Review

Ms. Rieth presented the drug review for Evamist. Evamist is a low-dose topical estrogen spray approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 2007. Mr. Ladwig suggested tabling this topic, since there is no utilization at this time.

Xopenex Review

Ms. Rieth presented the drug review and utilization for Xopenex, a beta₂-agonist. After reviewing and discussing the utilization data on Xopenex, the committee requested additional information for the next meeting. The committee would like utilization data for ProAir HFA, Proventil HFA, and Ventolin HFA including cost per prescription and age of patients. The committee also requested how many patients were treated acutely, how many were using albuterol and levalbuterol chronically, and how many of the Xopenex patients had albuterol first. This information will be presented at the next meeting.

Invega Review

Ms. Rieth presented the drug review and utilization for Invega, an antipsychotic indicated for the acute and maintenance treatment of schizophrenia. After a brief discussion, the committee asked that this topic be tabled until the September meeting. The committee expects two new board members to be in attendance that specialize in psychiatry.

Vusion Review

Ms. Rieth presented the drug review and utilization for Vusion, a combination of miconazole, zinc oxide and petrolatum indicated as adjunctive treatment of diaper dermatitis. After discussing the utilization data, the committee requested a report showing the providers prescribing this medication. This information will be provided at the next meeting.

Medications for Head Lice

Ms. Rieth presented the drug class review and utilization for medications used to treat head lice. Since this information was requested by a committee member not in attendance, the committee tabled the topic until the next meeting.

New Business

Committee members suggested future agenda items include Altabax, opioid utilization, and Lyrica. The committee would like to know the number of Lyrica patients who have had gabapentin previously.

After discussion, it was requested that potential meeting dates of September 12th and September 19th be sent out to committee members via email. Once a date has been decided, all committee member and advocacy members will be contacted. Meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.